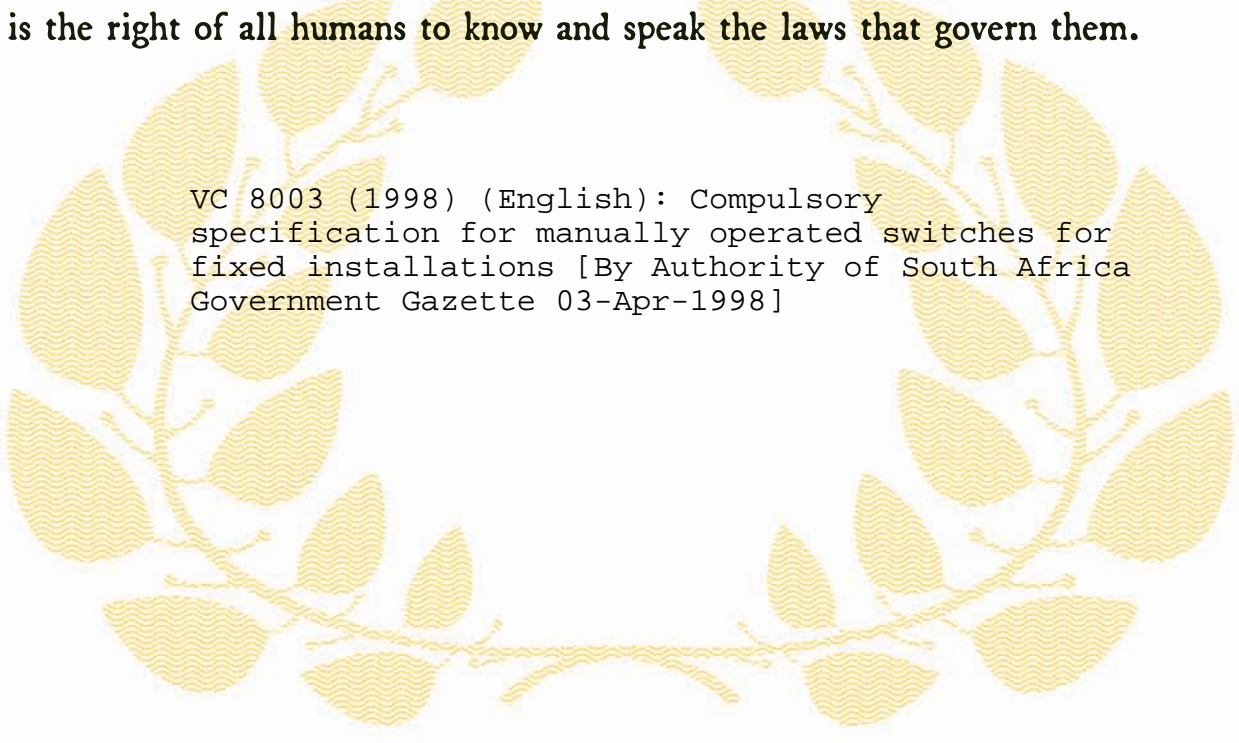




Republic of South Africa

EDICT OF GOVERNMENT

In order to promote public education and public safety, equal justice for all, a better informed citizenry, the rule of law, world trade and world peace, this legal document is hereby made available on a noncommercial basis, as it is the right of all humans to know and speak the laws that govern them.



VC 8003 (1998) (English): Compulsory
specification for manually operated switches for
fixed installations [By Authority of South Africa
Government Gazette 03-Apr-1998]



BLANK PAGE



Compulsory Specification for/
Verpligte Spesifikasie vir

**Manually operated switches for fixed installations/
Handskakelaars vir vaste installasies**

Published by Government Notice R438 (Government Gazette 18779) of
3 April 1998/
Gepubliseer by Goewermentskennisgewing R438 (Staatskoerant 18779)
van 3 April 1998

ICS 29.120.40

Folder/Omslag VC 8003

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTEMENT VAN HANDEL EN NYWERHEID**

No. R. 438**3 April 1998****STANDARDS ACT, 1993****COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR MANUALLY OPERATED SWITCHES FOR FIXED INSTALLATIONS**

I, Alec Erwin, Minister of Trade and Industry, hereby under section 22 (1) (a) (ii) of the Standards Act, 1993 (Act No. 29 of 1993), and on the recommendation of the Council of the South African Bureau of Standards, declare the specification contained in the Schedule to be a compulsory specification for manually operated switches for fixed installations with effect from the date two months after publication of this notice with the simultaneous withdrawal of the compulsory specification for appliance couplers for domestic appliances published by Schedule 1 of Government Notice No. R. 1615 of 22 October 1965.

A. ERWIN**Minister of Trade and Industry**

SCHEDULE

COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR MANUALLY OPERATED SWITCHES FOR FIXED INSTALLATIONS

1 Scope

1.1 This specification covers manually operated general purpose switches for a.c. only, with a rated voltage in the range 50 V to 440 V and a rated current not exceeding 63 A, and intended for fixed electrical installations, either indoors or outdoors.

1.2 This specification also covers

- switches that incorporate pilot lights;
- electronic remote control switches;
- switches that incorporate a time-delay device;
- combinations of switches and other functions (but not for switches combined with fuses);
- electronic switches; and
- switches that have facilities for the retention of and outlet for flexible cables.

1.3 This specification does not cover

- switches for appliances;
- circuit-breakers;
- contactors; and
- isolators (disconnectors).

2 Definitions

For the purposes of this specification, the following definitions apply:

2.1 manually operated switch: A switch operated by the direct use of any part of the human body.

2.2 switch: An item of electrical equipment capable of making, carrying and breaking currents in one or more electric circuits.

3 Requirements

3.1 A manually operated switch shall comply with the relevant of the following clauses of SABS IEC 669-1, *Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations – Part 1: General requirements*, as published by Government Notice 1084 (Government Gazette No. 17287) of 5 July 1996:

- 4 General requirements
- 6 Ratings

- 7 Classification
- 8 Marking
- 10 Protection against electric shock
- 11 Provision for earthing
- 12 Terminals
- 13 Constructional requirements
- 14 Mechanism
- 15 Resistance to ageing, to harmful ingress of water and to humidity
- 16 Insulation resistance and electric strength
- 17 Temperature rise
- 18 Making and breaking capacity
- 19 Normal operation
- 20 Mechanical strength
- 21 Resistance to heat
- 22 Screws, current-carrying parts and connections
- 23 Creepage distances, clearances and distances through sealing compound
- 24 Resistance of insulating material to abnormal heat, to fire and to tracking
- 25 Resistance to rusting